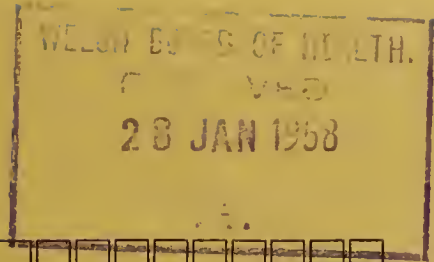


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GOWER
Rural District Council



ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR
1956

G. E. DONOVAN
M.D., M.Sc., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health





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Gower Rural District Council

1956

Chairman : Councillor G. E. GIBBS, J.P.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor J. W. THOMAS

Councillors :

WILLIAM AUSTIN, J.P.

C. A. BROWN

BRINLEY EDWARDS

I. A. GRONOW

GLYN A. GROVE, J.P.

ROBERT GUY, J.P.

D. I. JENKINS

S. E. JOHN

P. P. JONES, B.A.

T. LLOYD

F. LORD

L. OAKLEY

Colonel F. S. MORGAN,
C.B.E., D.L., J.P.

T. O'LEARY

R. E. PARRY

B. J. RICHARDS

J. B. ROGERS

W. G. TUCKER, J.P.

P. T. WILLIAMS

W. R. WILLIAMS

A. J. YEANDLE

Public Health Committee :

Chairman : Coun. WILLIAM AUSTIN, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : Coun. FRANK LORD

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health :

G. E. DONOVAN, M.D., M.Sc., D.P.H

Chief Public Health Inspector :

D. C. LLEWELLYN, F.S.I.A.,

C.R.S.I. (Meat & Other Foods).

Additional Public Health Inspector :

T. G. V. RADFORD,

C.R.S.I. (Meat & Other Foods).

Clerk :

Miss W. MARROW

Gower Rural District Council

To the Chairman & Members of the
GOWER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
7/8, Uplands Crescent,
Swansea.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year
1956.

I thank my staff for their loyalty and support.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

G. E. DONOVAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

1.—General Statistics.

Area of District—38,652 acres.

Number of inhabited houses at the end of the year—3901.

Rateable Value of District—£82,466.

Sum represented by 1d. rate—£315/12/4.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid-1956—11,890.

2.—Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Live Births :

	Total	M.	F.	
Legitimate	181	83	98	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—15.56.
Illegitimate	4	1	3	

Still Births :—

Legitimate	2	1	1	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)—10.6.
Deaths	147	70	77	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—12.36.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) Births
Death from Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Deaths from other Puerperal Causes	—	
Total	—	

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age :

All Infants per 1,000 live births	32.43
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	33.14
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0.0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	25 Deaths
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	—

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND CHIEF INDUSTRIES.

The Gower Area is chiefly agricultural with the exception of the North Eastern end of the Peninsula, which is industrial in character. Due to the charms of the area there is a very large influx of visitors, especially during the summer months.

There is a tendency to look upon Gower as a small agricultural area with a population of 11,890. In my opinion this is a wrong way to look at the situation. It will be noted that the population of Gower has increased from 11,790 from the last year to 11,890. I would reckon that at certain times of the year, due to the visitors, the population would be quadrupled, and the health facilities should be such as to adequately deal with this population. It must also be remembered that the Gower population is constantly increasing.

The population find employment on the land, catering for visitors, and a large percentage of the male population find employment in the Llchwyr area where they are engaged in the Steel, Tin and Coal trades.

At the Penclawdd, the cockle industry absorbs approximately 200 people. The estuary is polluted, and this industry should be safeguarded by adequate public health control. At the present time there are five cockle sterilization plants operating in the Penclawdd area.

AREA AND POPULATION.

The District is divided into 17 parishes, the acreage of each parish being as follows :

Bishopston	.....	.....	.....	2598	acres.
Llanmadoc	.....	.....	.....	1463	„
Cheriton	.....	.....	.....	1427	„
Ilston	.....	.....	.....	3109	„
Reynoldston	.....	.....	.....	1069	„
Knelston	.....	.....	.....	548	„
Llangennith	.....	.....	.....	3373	„
Llanrhidian Higher	.....	.....	.....	5212	„
Llanrhidian Lower	.....	.....	.....	6125	„
Nicholaston	.....	.....	.....	517	„
Penmaen	.....	.....	.....	1005	„
Oxwich	.....	.....	.....	1342	„
Pennard	.....	.....	.....	2862	„
Penrice	.....	.....	.....	2127	„
Porteynon	.....	.....	.....	1151	„
Llanddewi	.....	.....	.....	2009	„
Rhossili	.....	.....	.....	2715	„
				<hr/>	
				38652	„
				<hr/>	

The estimated resident population of the district for 1956 is given by the Registrar-General as 11,890.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year was 3,901, and the rateable value of the district was £82,466 which represents a sum of £315/12/4 as the yield of a penny rate.

BIRTHS.

The number of live births registered for the district during 1956 was 185, being 84 males and 101 females, representing a birth rate of 15.56 per thousand of the estimated population. The figure recorded for England and Wales 15.60.

In 1955 the net total births amounted to 165, which shows an increase this year of 20 births.

Three female and one male illegitimate children were registered, a proportion of 21.6 per thousand of the registered live births.

The still-births numbered 2, that is 1 male and 1 female, which is equivalent to a rate of 10.6 per thousand total (live and still) births.

BIRTH RATE.

The birth rate for the Gower area has increased this year being 15.56 per thousand of the population. Last year the rate was given as 13.99.

Figure for England and Wales being 15.60 and Administrative County 15.76.

DEATHS.

The net total deaths after allowing for inward and outward transfers was 147, being 70 males and 77 females. This represents a death rate of 12.36 per thousand of the estimated population. The figure given for England and Wales being 11.7.

Compared with the net total deaths for 1955 which was 170, this shows a decrease of 23 deaths.

There were 6 deaths in children under 1 year in 1956, which gives an Infantile Mortality rate of 32.43 per thousand total live births.

The Infant Mortality Rate is a very good index to the social circumstances of an area, as the rate tends to be high in places where bad housing, overcrowding, defective sanitation, maternal ignorance and neglect prevail. The rate for 1955 was 30.30.

No deaths occurred in the area due to Puerperal Sepsis or other maternal causes.

8 deaths were due to Bronchitis and 1 from other forms of Respiratory Diseases, giving a total of 9 deaths from all forms of Respiratory Diseases, apart from Tuberculosis, giving a death rate of .75 per thousand of the population.

No deaths were registered from Tuberculosis.

One death from Suicide.

Cancer and all other forms of Malignant disease caused 25 deaths, giving a death rate of 2.1 per thousand of the population. The figure for 1955 was 32 deaths—death rate 2.71.

The causes of deaths during the year are as follows:—

Respiratory Tuberculosis	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1
Malignant neoplasm, bronchus	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	17
Vascular lesions of nervous system	23
Coronary disease, angina	16
Hypertension with heart disease	2
Other heart diseases	21
Other circulatory diseases.....	14
Bronchitis	8
Other diseases of respiratory system	1
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	2
Gastritis, Enteritis	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2
Congenital Malformation ..	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	24
Motor accidents	1
All other accidents	2
Suicide	1
Total	147

No deaths were notified from infectious diseases, but it is interesting to note the number that occur in the Gower area due to Circulatory Diseases, which includes Heart Disease, and is a great killer. Any research to reduce the mortality and crippling due to this disease, would lighten the burden.

Death Rate from Other Causes.

Cancer	.....	.....	25	2.10
Circulatory Diseases	.....	.....	53	4.45
Bronchitis and other diseases of the respiratory system	.....	.....	9	.75

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria.

No case was notified to my department during the year.

It may be stated that the incidence of Diphtheria in this area is low due to the extensive Immunisation Campaign.

The incidence of Diphtheria in Gower for the past eleven years is as follows:

Year	Number of Cases		Deaths
1945	1	1
1946	2	—
1947	—	—
1948	—	—
1949	1	—
1950	1	—
1951	—	—
1952	—	—
1953	—	—
1954	—	—
1955	—	—
1956	—	—

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Since the new Health Scheme this is under the control of the Glamorgan County Council.

General Practitioners in the Administrative County who participate in the County Council's Scheme for Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination against Smallpox may obtain serum and vaccine free of cost from the Medical Research Councils' Laboratories at Cardiff and Carmarthen.

It cannot be too strongly stressed that Diphtheria Immunisation gives nearly 100% protection and that in my opinion a parent or guardian who knowingly deprives a child of this protection is guilty to say the least of gross negligence—and that is using a mild term. There is no reason why anyone in this area can state that they are unaware of the facilities available to them for immunisation.

We cannot be too complacent about diphtheria immunisation. It must be remembered that previously 50% of the death rate in diphtheria occurred in children under the age of four years. It requires only a few years of non-immunisation to be back in the old days. This illustrates that there is no final victory in preventive medicine—it is a continuous battle.

Scarlet Fever.

5 cases were notified to my department during the year, giving a rate of 0.42 per thousand of the population.

The removal of cases of Scarlet Fever to Isolation Hospital in this district depends upon home conditions. If the home conditions are such that in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health it is safe to nurse the patient at home, this is done. If, however, the home conditions are unsuitable the patient is admitted to Garngoch Isolation Hospital.

Pneumonia.

One case was notified during the year.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

No cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified. The figures from 1950 are as follows:—

		Cases.
1950	.....	1
1951	.....	2
1952	.....	20
1953	.....	5
1954	.....	4
1955	.....	0
1956	.....	0

Dysentery.

15 cases of Sonnei Dysentery were notified representing a rate of 1.2 per thousand of the population. Twelve were removed to Hospital.

Food Poisoning.

1 case reported.

Venereal Diseases.

Many cases are brought to the notice of the public health department. Those who are not attending for treatment are contacted and encouraged to attend a V.D. clinic. Contacts are also requested to attend a clinic.

Wasserman Blood Tests are being done as a routine in the Ante-Natal Clinics, and samples of blood are sent to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory.

The nearest clinics for this area are held at Swansea and Port Talbot, and the sessions are as follows:—

Swansea Clinic (Situate at Swansea General and Eye Hospital):

Males —Monday, 2 p.m.
 Tuesday, 7 p.m.
 Friday, 6.30 p.m.

Females—Thursday, 1.30 p.m.

Port Talbot Clinic (Situate on the right hand side of the road immediately opposite the exit from G.W.R. Station) :

Males—Monday 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and
5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Thursday 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Females—Wednesday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS, 1956

	Estimated Population 1956	Births			Number of Deaths	Deaths		Infant Mortality	
		Number of Births	Rate per 1000 population			Rate per 1000 population		Deaths under 1 Year	Rate per 1000 Live Births
			Crude	Adjusted		Crude	Adjusted		
England and Wales									
Administrative County
Urban Districts
Rural Districts
<i>Health Division.</i>									
Aberdare and									
Mountain Ash
Gaerphilly and
Gelligaer.
Mid Glamorgan

ANALYSIS OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) for 1956

[illegible]

TUBERCULOSIS.

Three cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during 1956 as compared with 10 last year.

On receipt of a notification of surgical tuberculosis, the Sanitary Inspector automatically checks up on the milk supply from which district the notification is received.

It should be stressed that the cost of curative patching of a case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis may be £1,000. The prevention of Tuberculosis in comparison is almost negligible.

We are coming to a stage when we will have more cases of tuberculosis in our midst than previously, due to the fact that prior to this the bad cases died and the slight cases recovered. Due to modern treatment, the bad cases now survive very much longer. Whilst this is very desirable for the individuals concerned, from the point of view of the community it means that there will be more cases of tuberculosis at large.

There is great difficulty in deciding about the notifications of primary tuberculosis. Some authorities take the view that primary cases of tuberculosis are non-infectious at the time and should not be notified, and consequently they do not notify them. In my opinion, it is very desirable that all these cases should be notified, as, from a preventive point of view, we are very interested to know where they had their infection, and by this means to check up on all contacts and prevent further cases.

It can happen that a primary case would be notified two years later as a certified case of tuberculosis. It is rather late to do anything at this particular stage, it could be done very much easier two years previously.

Rubella and Haemolytic Streptococcal Infection.

There is a great danger in having a lackadaisical attitude towards infectious diseases. For instance, the general public look upon German Measles as being of relatively little consequence. It has been proved that there is great danger to the unborn child if a woman contracts this disease when she is about three months pregnant. As her child may be born with congenital defects such a defect is not due to heredity but due to foetus being affected by the mother's complaint. It is very desirable that a pregnant woman be prevented from coming into contact with such a disease as German measles.

The general attitude towards haemolytic streptococcal infection, such as scarlet fever, is that they are relatively benign. This, in my opinion, is a dangerous attitude. The haemolytic streptococcus is ultimately associated with rheumatic fever, and rheumatic fever is the great cause of heart disease (endocarditis). Haemolytic streptococcal infections are also associated with nephritis, it may be years afterwards when the original agent which caused the disease has been completely forgotten that the patient is diagnosed as suffering from incurable heart disease or nephritis.

In my opinion, it is very dangerous to nurse in open wards in a general hospital any infectious diseases, the proper place for these cases is in an infectious disease hospital.

SMOKING. Cancer of the lung is increasing. There is a close co-relationship between cancer of the lung and smoking. It is very desirable, from a public health point of view, that children and young adults should be actively discouraged from taking up cigarette smoking. A person who introduces the young to the hazards of smoking is taking on himself a grave responsibility.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was taken under this regulation during the year 1955, relating to Tubercular employees in the milk trade.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172.

No action was taken under this Section during the year 1956.

Tuberculosis Clinics.—The curative treatment of Tuberculosis is in the care of the Regional Hospital Board, and patients suffering from this disease attend the Dispensary at 9/10 Grove Place, Swansea.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1956

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
15—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.....	3	1	3	—	—	—	—	—

Hospitals.—The Gorseinon General and Maternity Hospital and Garngoch Isolation Hospital are under the control of the Gwent Regional Hospital Board.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

Ambulance Facilities:—

Infectious and Non-Infectious Cases—Since the 5th July, 1948, the Glamorgan County Council have taken over the control of the ambulance services in the administrative county.

As regards this area, an Ambulance Station has been established at Pontardawe, which controls the ambulances and cars stationed at Reynoldston, Gowerton, Gorseinon, Pontardulais, Gwauncaegurwen, Cwmllynfell, Ystalyfera, Pontardawe and Clydach.

Laboratory Facilities—Pathological and bacteriological specimens are submitted to the Cardiff and County Laboratory and the Beck Laboratory, Swansea, for examination.

MILK.

Milk is a highly nutritious food. It can also be a most dangerous food, as it can act as an ideal culture medium for certain pathogens, except certain precautions are taken. It is my opinion that it is highly desirable that all milk should be pasteurised.

Milk should come from clean, healthy herds. The milking should be done under proper hygienic conditions, and should not be contaminated at any stage. Pasteurisation should not be used to cover up dirty milk.

29 samples of milk were sent to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Swansea, for Tubercle Bacilli examination, the results being as follows:—

Negative	.....	.....	.....	.....	27
Presence of Br. Abortus indicated				.....	1
Premature death of guinea pigs	.....			.....	2

ICE CREAM.

Ice-cream is a nutritious food. It is essential that it should be manufactured, stored and sold under hygienic conditions.

Numerous outbreaks of intestinal infections have occurred throughout the country due to Ice-Cream, and consequently legislation was introduced requiring the registration of premises where Ice-Cream is sold, or manufactured for the purpose of sale, or stored for intended sale.

The Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.), Regulations, 1947, state that where in the manufacture of ice-cream, a "complete cold mix" is used, which is reconstituted with water, colouring or flavouring materials, etc., the product shall be converted to ice-cream within one hour of reconstitution. In any other case, after the ingredients have been mixed, the mixture shall not be kept for more than one hour above 45°F before being raised to and kept at a temperature of not less than 150°F for 30 minutes, or 160°F for 10 minutes. It shall then within 1½ hours be reduced to not more than 45°F, and there kept until freezing is begun. Ice-Cream may not be sold unless kept at a temperature not exceeding 28°F. It must be protected from contamination at all times.

The Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.), Regulations, 1947, have been amended by the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.), Amendment Regulations, 1953, so as to include the High Temperature Short Time (H.T.S.T.) method of heat treatment. This H.T.S.T. method provides for the heat treatment of ice-cream mixes at a temperature of not less than 175°F for at least 15 seconds. The apparatus used is required to be thermostatically controlled and, as with the high temperature short time plants used for the pasteurisation of milk, fitted with a flow diversion valve. The installation of a positive displacement pump is also required, but this requirement would be met where the flow-rate through the plant is regulated by a piston homogeniser. The other relevant provisions of the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations of 1947-1951, also apply to ice-cream manufactured by the new process.

There is a great danger if Ice-Cream is made from materials which contain pathogenic organisms. What is even more dangerous is the actual introduction of organisms by insanitary methods of handling.

The Minister of Food has now restored the standard for ice-cream which was in force before 7th July, 1952. The minimum fat content is increased from 4% to 5%, and the minimum content of non-fat milk solids from 5% to 7½%. The minimum sugar content remains at 10%. This has been rendered possible by the improvement in supplies of milk powder.

Four Samples were taken by the Public Health Inspector and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. Unsatisfactory results are followed up in each case.

HOUSING.

Up to the end of 1956 the Council erected 453 Houses. The Emergency Housing Sites at Parc Estate and Upper Killay, together with Graig-y-Coed, Penclawdd are still retained by the Council, the present population being 16 families.

CONTAMINATION OF BATHING BEACHES.

The Medical Research Council, in a circular dated August, 1956, asked for collaboration in their investigations regarding the bacteriology of sea water at a number of coastal resorts, and the risks to health of bathing in polluted sea water. For this they asked for information on the incidence of three diseases—one known to be waterborne on occasion (salmonella infection) one with a possible waterborne aetiology in some instances (infective hepatitis) and one with no known association with water (pertussis).

The Gower area had one case only of Salmonella, and no cases of Infective Hepatitis or Pertussis.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Through the kindness of Dr. W. E. Thomas, County Medical Officer of Health, I am able to give the following particulars of samples taken and submitted to the Public Analyst.

Samples taken by the County Sampling Officer in the Gower Rural District during the Year ended 31st December, 1956.

Milk	95	Cheese Spread	2
Tea	4	Ground Ginger	1
Lemon Barley Water	2	Salmon Spread	2
Bicarbonate of Soda	3	Mixed Peel	1
White Pepper	4	Corned Beef	1
Dried Peas	2	Canned Fish	1
Ground Nutmeg	1	Cornflour	2
Fish Paste	1	Gravy Browning	2
Meat Paste	1	Table Jelly	2
Margarine	4	Pineapple Drink	1
Dried Thyme	1	Lemonade	2
Rice	6	Pie Filling	1
Lemonade Powder	1	Canned Beans	1
Mint Jelly	1	Mincemeat	1
Semolina	1	Macaroni	2
Ground Almonds	2	Sago	1
Canned Tripe & Onions	1	Butter	1
Lemon Curd	2	Canned Stewed Steak	1
Salt	2	Lollipops	1
Cake & Pudding Mixture	1	Canned Grapefruit	1
Dessicated Coconut	1	Orange Drink	1
Self Raising Flour	1	Canned Soup	2
Diabetic Jam	1	Tomato Soup	2
Sugar	1	Tomato Juice	1
Salad Cream	1	Canned Rhubarb	1
Almond Essence	1	Sauce	1
Sterilised Cream	6	Jam	1
Canned Treacle	1	Canned Pineapples	1
Tapioca	3	Canned Peas	1
Coffee & Chicory Essence	2	Marzipan	1
Prunes	1	Sponge Mixture	1
Cake Mixture	1	Scone Mixture	1
Vinegar	4	Vermicelli	1
Canned Pudding	2	Glace Cherries	1
Ice Cream	5	Olive Oil	1
Shredded Beef Suet	2	Non Brewed Condiment	1
Canned Oranges	1		
		Total	212

BREAD.

Agene is used by British millers in flour. Experimental work has proved that this substance can cause a nervous disease in dogs, which is characterised by a form of hysteria. Some countries do not permit the use of this substance in bread and I understand that the United States of America is one of them. Some of the medical profession are disturbed by the use of this substance in the food which has been labelled the staff of life. It has been pointed out that men are not dogs, and that whilst agene produces a form of hysteria in dogs, there is no proof that it has such an effect on human beings. It has been counter-suggested that whilst it may not produce the same symptoms as in canines, it may affect the health of susceptible people, especially when consumed over a period of years. This subject of agene leaves one vaguely disturbed, but in the present state of our knowledge it is desirable that one should have an open mind. I understand the Medical Research Council are going into the whole matter.

CARAVANS.

The following are the approved caravan sites within the area :-

Site	Planning Approval.	Vans Permitted.	Water Supply	San. F.	Accomm. M.	Ur. Disp.
J. N. Grove, Port Eynon, Field 234	5/3/53	43	Mains	3	2	3 Septic Tank
Do. Field 235	5/3/53	20	do.	3	2	1 do.
Mrs. W. J. Grove, Port Eynon Burrows.	30/7/53	64	do.	4	2	3 do.
D. J. Lewis, Croft Farm, Oxwich.	8/4/54	26	do.	2	1	2 do.
J. Morris, Broughton Bay, Llangennith.	3/7/52	21	Spring water piped to site	2	2	2 do.
G. E. Rees, Hillend, Llangennith.	6/7/52	50	do.	2	2	4 do.
C. Price, Lagadranta, Llanmadoc	8/11/52	50	do	2	2	1 do.
W. H. Loosemore, New Park Port Eynon	—	25	Mains	2	1	4 do.

In addition to the above there are several caravan sites established for which planning approval has not been granted, whilst there are also a considerable number of individual caravans established indiscriminately within the area.

This is a matter that will require serious consideration at an early date as it is has now become a major problem.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

As required by Section 128 (3) of the Factories Act, 1937, I give below, particulars with respect to matters under Part 1 and Part 8 of the Act as administered by the Council :

(1) Factories in which Sections, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities			
number on Register	.....	.....	23
Inspections—ditto	.....	.....	17
Number of Notices served	.....	.....	—
Prosecutions	.....	.....	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority			
Inspections—ditto	.....	.....	6
Number of Notices served	.....	.....	—
Prosecutions	.....	.....	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority			
Inspections	.....	.....	1
Number of Notices served	.....	.....	—

Cases in which defects were found :

Want of cleanliness	.....	.....	3
Sanitary conveniences :			
(a) insufficient	.....	.....	1
(b) unsuitable or defective	.....	.....	1
(c) not separate for sexes	.....	.....	—
Total	.....	.....	5

Outwork (Section 110 and 111) —

Summary of Visits.

Caravan sites	.....	49
House-letting	.....	69
Food premises	.....	111
Hotels and Licenced Premises	.....	14
Institutions and Hospitals	.....	8
Schools and School Kitchens	.....	11
Slaughterhouses	.....	515
Cockle and Laverbread Manufacturers	.....	32
Dairy premises	.....	46
Factories	.....	9
Water supplies	.....	39
Drainage and Sewage disposal	.....	89
Refuse Disposal	.....	30
Infectious Diseases	.....	123
Rat Infestation	.....	13
Other visits	.....	67
Owners and Contractors interviewed	.....	111

Number of complaints received	.....	75
Number of complaints referred to Engineer	.....	13

HOUSING.

Inspections—Houses.

Number of Houses inspected	.....	179
Number of Houses re-inspected	.....	93
Number of temporary dwellings inspected	.....	134

Notices.

Number of Statutory Notices served	.....	2
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	.....	4
Number of Statutory Notices work in hand	.....	1
Number of Informal Notices served	.....	53
Number of Informal Notices complied with	.....	34

Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses.

Action taken under the Housing Acts & Public Health Act for the period ending the 31st December, 1956.

Part A. Houses Demolished.

No. of houses No. of persons displaced

Not in Clearance Area.

As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 11, Housing Act, 1936	6	11
--	-------	---	----

Part B.—Unfit Houses Closed.

Under Housing Act 1936, Section 11 & Local Govt. (Misc. Prov.) Act 1953 Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2)	1	3
--	-------	-------	---	---

Under Housing Act 1949 Sections 3 (1) and (2)	—	—
---	-------	-------	---	---

Under Housing Act 1936 Section 12	—	—
-----------------------------------	-------	-------	---	---

Part C. Unfit Houses made fit & houses in which defects were remedied.

By Owner. By Local Authority

After informal action by Local Authority	12	—
--	-------	----	---

After formal notice under (a) Public Health Acts		3	—
(b) Housing Act, 1936		1	—

Under Section 5 Housing Repairs & Rent Act, 1954		—	—
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House construction.

The following are the house construction figures during the year.

No. of Council Houses erected	.....	.....	48
(Llanrhidian	6)		
(Edgmore Close	42)		
No. of Council houses under construction	.....		24
No. of private houses erected	.....	.....	37
No. of private houses under construction	.....	.....	26

The present distribution of Council Houses within the area is as follows:—

Agricultural Cottages :			
Reynoldston (2), Overton (2), Middleton (2)			6
Brynymor Bungalows, Three Crosses	N.T.		8
Brynymor Houses, Three Crosses	T.		56
Burry Green	T.		6
Chapel Lane, Murton	N.T.		8
Edgemoor Close, Upper Killay	N.T.		42
Edgemoor Drive, Upper Killay	T.		30
The Glebe, Bishopston	T.		8
Landimore	T.		2
Llanmadoc	T.		2
Llanyrnewydd, Penclawdd	N.T.		60
Llotrog	N.T. & T.		18
Lunnon Close	N.T. & T.		8
Malt Hall, Llanrhidian	N.T. & T.		14
Monksland Close, Scourlage	T.		20
Old Council Houses, Dunvant	T.		8
Old Council Houses, Killay	T.		6
Old Council Houses, Penclawdd	T.		32
Old Council Houses, Three Crosses	T.		12
Oxwich	T.		2
Penlan, Penclawdd	T.		14
Priors Crescent, Dunvant	T.		20
Salisbury Close	T.		4
Tor View, Penmaen	T.		6
Westbourne View, Crofty	N.T. & T.		12
			<hr/>
			404

T.—*Traditional.*

N.T.—*Non-Traditional.*

House-Letting.

At the end of the year there were 261 applications still outstanding for Council houses from persons residing within the area ; and in addition there were 47 applications from persons residing outside the area.

The applications classified according to the district in which the applicants reside and the areas to which they shew preference is given in the following table.—

District or Area	No. of applicants for houses		
	No. of Applicants from Area.	In home Area.	In home Area or Alt. Area.
Three Crosses	22	2	20
Penclawdd	47	21	26
Llanmorlais	12	4	8
Llanrhidian	11	5	6
Bishopston	35	14	21
Dunvant	30	11	19
Killay	34	24	10
Parkmill	41	5	36
Penmaen	5	2	3
Reynoldston	7	—	7
Oxwich	—	—	—
Llandewi	1	1	—
Port Eynon	3	—	3
Rhossili	3	2	1
Llangennith	4	1	3
Llanmadoc	5	—	5
Cheriton	1	—	1
	261	92	169
No. of applicants from outside the area	47		
	308		

Hutments.

The number of temporary hutments still in occupation at 31st December, 1956, were:—

Graig-y-coed	7
Parc Estate	9
Devils Elbow	—
Blackhills	—
	16

Families re-housed.

No. of Families re-housed in Council Houses:—

	Families	Persons
From temporary hutments	25	120
Overcrowding & general needs	22	84
Following Closing/Demolition Orders	4	18
	<hr/> 51	<hr/> 222

There were 47 temporary hutments remaining in occupation at the 31st December, 1955.

The occupants of 25 of these were re-housed in Council Houses, 6 found accommodation elsewhere and there were 16 remaining in occupation at the end of the year, in the process Devil's Elbow and Blackhills were completely vacated and the site closed.

WATER SUPPLY.

Samples of water were taken at regular intervals throughout the year for bacteriological examination, and chemical analysis, the number of samples and the results of the examinations were as follows:—

	Public Service Pipes	Supplies, Springs & Reservoirs	Private Supplies Springs & Wells	Total
Bacteriological Examination.				
No. of Samples	19	10	2	31
No. Satisfactory	16	5	2	23
No. Unsatisfactory	3	5	—	8
Chemical Analysis.				
No. of Samples	11	—	—	11
No. Satisfactory	11	—	—	11
No. Unsatisfactory	—	—	—	—

The unsatisfactory bacteriological samples shown above were all taken from the Pitton Supply.

In an endeavour to locate the source of contamination, samples were taken from the Spring and from the storage reservoir at Pitton. Chlorination of supplies have been carried out in the meantime with satisfactory results.

Reservoirs.

Below is a list of reservoirs showing their capacity:—

Cefn Bryn (Ex Parkmill)	.....	.....	462,000	Galls.
Hotwell	.....	.....	30,000	do.
Holywell	.....	.....	37,500	do.
Pitton	.....	.....	60,000	do.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

These Regulations with stipulated exceptions came into operation on the 1st January, 1956. The exceptions in the main referred to structural alterations to premises, and to the provision of washing facilities, water supply etc., the operative date in these instances being the 1st July, 1956.

The Regulations cover all types of food premises, and among other matters they deal with structure of premises, equipment, personal cleanliness, sanitary arrangements, water supply and washing facilities, stalls, transport and handling of food.

The attention of all persons engaged in the handling of food within the area was drawn to the provision of these Regulations, and a printed abstract of the Regulations was also sent to them.

Milk & Dairies Reg. 1949.

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised & Sterilised) Regs. 1949.

Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regs. 1949.

The following tables shows the number of Registered Distributors, Dairies, & Licenced Dealers under the Regulations for the year 1954 & 1956.

Registered Dairies.		Up to 1955	1956	Total
No. of Dairies	.....	5	1	6
No. of visits to Dairies	.....		
and milk shops	.....		46	
No. of informal notices complied	.....		2	

Dealers Designated Milk Licences issued.

	Principal			Supplementary			Total		
	1954	1955	1956	1954	1955	1956	1954	1955	1956
No. of T.T. Milk Licences	—	11	10	—	3	4	—	14	14
No. Pasteurised Licences	1	9	11	—	3	4	1	12	15
No. Sterilised Licences	—	4	9	—	3	4	—	7	13
	1	24	30	—	9	12	1	33	42

Number of dealers to whom licenses have been issued—15.

Designated Milk Samples.

Five samples of Designated Milk taken and submitted for Bacteriological examination during the year were reported as satisfactory.

Registered Distributors of Milk.

A survey of the registered Distributors of milk was carried out during the year, and it was found that 11 of the 19 registered had ceased to carry on the trade of Distributors of milk within the meaning of the Regulations.

These have been cancelled, and the following shows the present number of Registrations.

	1954	1955	1956 New Regstns.	1956 Regstns. Cancl'd.	Total at end of year
Number of Dairymen	2	4	2	1	5
Number of Farmers	13	13	—	10	3
Number of Shopkeepers	—	2	—	—	2
	15	19	2	11	10

MEAT & OTHER FOODS.**Slaughterhouses.**

The following eight slaughterhouses were again licenced during the year, and below is given details of the work carried out at these slaughterhouses.

F. C. Bayliss,	Gleneagles, Three Crosses.
P. Hughes,	Wern Fabian, Llanmorlais.
V. Jeffreys,	Coed-y-dwr, Llanrhidian.
H. Jones,	Hunts Farm, Pennard.
M. Kiley,	Llwyn-y-bwch, Old Walls.
G. Rees,	Brynteg, Llangennith.
W. J. Tucker,	Pant-y-celyn, Upper Killay.
W. T. Williams,	Killay Fawr Farm, Upper Killay.

Work Carried out :—

Premises cleansed and redecorated	.....	7
Electricity provided	.....	3
Wash-up sink provided	.....	1
Hanging rails provided	.....	1
Steam boiler provided	.....	1
Electro lethaler provided	.....	1
Ventilation improved	.....	1

Slaughtermen Licences.

Seventeen renewals of licence to slaughter animals were granted to slaughtermen during the year.

Thirteen of these were for the slaughter of cattle, sheep and pigs; three for sheep and pigs; and one for the slaughter of pigs only.

MEAT INSPECTION.

All animals slaughtered within the Council's area are subjected to a thorough examination before they pass to the consumer, and for this purpose 515 visits were made to slaughterhouses during the year, and 6042 animals were examined, an increase of 18% over last year.

All meat condemned in the area is first coloured before being destroyed or disposed of through trade channels by the owner.

The following table gives the number of animals killed with details of the meat and offal condemned.

Description	Cattle Ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & lambs	Pigs
Number killed if known	322	43	110	4274	1293
Number inspected	322	43	110	4274	1293
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	4	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	172	12	10	508	25
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	53·4%	27·9%	9·0%	12·0%	2·5%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	·3		—	—	·23%
Details of meat and offal condemned.					
Livers	145	11	5	508	22
Part Livers	27	1	—	—	—
Lungs	71	8	10	502	25
Heads	2	—	—	—	3
Carcasses	—	—	—	4	—
Part Carcasses	2	—	—	1	2

Total approximate weight—1 ton 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 24 lbs.

UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED AND DESTROYED.

- 4 packets of cake flour.
- 11 lbs. beef sausages.
- 1 x 5 lb. tin of ham.
- 1 x 28 oz. tin of cream.
- 9 x $3\frac{3}{4}$ oz. tin of lemonade crystals.

COCKLES.

Following the coming into operation of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955, and the Food and Drugs 1955, all the known cockle gatherers and those known to be boiling cockles were communicated with, drawing their attention to the new Regulations, whilst at the same time they were sent a copy of a printed abstract of the Regulations.

In addition they were informed that persons processing cockles were contravening the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act unless the processing was carried on in registered premises.

Persons concerned in the trade also attended a Public meeting which was held at the Memorial Hall, Penclawdd, in July last, when the provisions of the Regulations and the requirements in relation to registered food premises were explained to them and discussed.

Progress is being made in regard to the elimination of indiscriminate boiling of cockles in gardens, and on the foreshore; some of the persons concerned are now making use of the existing approved factories.

Samples of cockles were taken during the year and when unsatisfactory were followed up and the necessary action taken.

Licenced Premises.

Visits of inspection have been made to licenced premises and informal notices served regarding sanitary accommodation, provision of hot & cold water supplies and drainage. Work has been complied with in certain cases and in others it is being proceeded with.

ICE-CREAM.

Under the Food & Drugs Act 1938 it was necessary that all premises used for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream should comply with certain conditions laid down in the Act and be registered, and these provisions were again re-enacted in the 1955 Act.

Having completed a survey of these premises in April of this year, and in conjunction with the existing recorded registrations, the following was the position prevailing:—

		Manf. Sale & Storage.	Sale & Storage
Registered premises at April, 1955	.....	7	23
Registrations redundant	.....	6	8
Premises not registered	.....	1	16
New applicants registered since 1955	.....	—	6

As a result of these findings the following recommendations and adjustments were made:—

		Manf. Sale & Storage	Sale & Storage
Premises newly registered	.....	1	13
Applications for registration deferred pending compliance with Hygiene Regulations	.....	—	3
Registrations cancelled (redundant)	.....	6	8
Recommended refusal of registration	.....	—	1
Change of ownership recorded	.....	—	3

The ultimate number of premises registered on the 31st December, 1956 were :—

Manufacture, Storage and Sale	.....	2
Sale & Storage only	.....	39

Work carried out :

Ventilation provided to Sanitary Conveniences	.....	1
Wash-hand basins provided	.....	2
Wash-up sinks provided	.....	5
Hot Water supply provided	.....	6
Cold Water supply provided	.....	5

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

123 visits were made as a result of notified and suspected cases of infectious diseases. In following up suspected cases of food poisoning, Dysentery, etc., 101 specimen's of faeces were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination, 8 of which proved to be Sonne Dysentery.

Disinfection was carried out in 12 houses following removal of patients to hospital or after recovery of patients nursed at home

Fumigation of two hospital wards at Fairwood Hospital and of the laundry was also carried out during the year.

DISINFESTATION.

One dwelling was treated during the year for the eradication of bed bugs.

PETROLEUM (REGISTRATION) ACT 1928--36.

Twenty-seven applications were received for licences for the storage and/or sale of petroleum, which consisted of one new licence and 26 renewals.

EXPLOSIVES ACT 1875.

Sixteen applications were received for licences or renewal of licences under the above Act. Fourteen of these were for the storage and sale of fireworks, and the remaining two for the storage of explosives at quarries.

Licences were granted in all cases but one, the applicant being refused owing to the premises concerned being a petrol filling station.

RODENT CONTROL.

Rodent control is carried out under the supervision of the Department by a rodent operator whose duties also include the levelling of refuse tips, and the care of the sanitary conveniences at Penclawdd.

Whilst the treatment of infested premises discovered during routine inspection was being carried out, 37 complaints were also received, all of which were promptly dealt with, and with excellent results.

2552 baits were laid during the year and the total number of bodies recovered were—Rats 860. Mice 44.

Fortunately none of these premises were heavily infested and the following is a summary of the inspections made, and the treatment carried out by the rodent operator.

		L. A. Premises	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises etc.	Agricul- tural
No. of inspections	.....	16	831	112	305
Total inspections incl. re-inspections	.....	—	—	—	800
No. of properties found infested :					
Rats	.....	2	308	7	317
Mice	.....	—	11	7	18
No. of infested premises treated	.....	2	319	14	335

SEWERS.

Sewer baiting was also carried out during the year in the undermentioned areas, and the results were most satisfactory.

		No. of Manholes.	No. Baited.	No of takes (partial).
Edgmoor Close	.....	17	3	—
Edgmoor Drive	.....	22	6	—
Hen Parc Lane	.....	5	2	—
Brynymor, Three Crosses	.....	26	8	2
Priors Cres., Dunvant	.....	21	5	—
	.....	91	24	2



